THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): To prevent pilferage of canal waters, steps, such as, rotational water supply, association of farmers with water management and adoption of proper irrigation scheduling are being undertaken.

Based on the results of recent research, methods like providing Wind Breakers, Covering Water Surface, Reducing Exposed Surface and Surface Treatment with Chemical Retardants, are being tried for reducing evaporation losses.

Restriction on the import of CTA based medical X-ray films

2085. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate General of Health Services recommended in 1988 for restricting the import of CTA based Medical X-ray films which are indigenously manufactured; and

(b) if so, by when the import of these films is likely to be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The forthcoming new Import & Export Policy will be laid on the Table of the House on 30th March, 1990. It is, therefore, premature to disclose details about the policy regime for these items at this stage.

Raid at the premises of customs officials

2086. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India of the 11th August, 1988 about raids at the premises of Customs Officials; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to probe into the conspiracy against the concerned Customs officer and the nine idividuals?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Government had seen the news item which appeared in the Times of India of the 11th August, 1988. Investigations by CBI are still in progress.

Aluminium project in Andhra Pradesh

2087. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Alumina/Aluminium project in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and at what stage the proposal rests at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) A feasibility report to set up 2.3 million tonnes per annum Bauxite Mine in Andhra Pradesh for export to USSR prepared jointly by the Indian and Soviet experts, was considered in the Working Group under the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission in December, 1987 and by the Empowered Body of the Soviet and Indian experts in April, 1989. U.S.S.R. have now informed that Bau-

xite Mine of 2.3 million tonnes per annum capacity would not fulfil the criteria for viability of the capital investment.

2088. [*Transferred to the 25th March, 1990*]

Commission paid by Scheduled banks for mopping up deposits in Nationalised Banks

2089. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the rate of commission paid by the scheduled banks for mopping up deposits in the nationalised banks in the country;

(b) what is the amount of commission paid by the nationalised banks during the financial years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (till date);

(c) what is the rate of commission paid on the deposits mooted by Government departments, public undertakings and other Government agencies and what is the total amount of commission paid during the last three years, yearwise; and

(d) whether Government have considered the question of stopping the practice of paying commissions on such deposits mooted by Government departments public undertakings and other Government agencies to save public funds; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that instructions have been issued to banks from time to time prohibiting them from paying commission/brokerage in any form mobilising deposits.

(c) and (d) Do not arise, in view of (a) and (b) above.

रुपये की क्रय शक्ति

2090. **श्री राम नरेश यादव**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले कई वर्षों के दौरान देश में रुपए की क्रय राशि में लगातार गिरावट आ रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो 1980–81 की कीमतों को आधार वर्ष मानते हुए दिसम्बर 1988, दिसम्बर, 1989 और फरवरी, 1990 में रुपए की क्रय शक्ति कितनी रही है?

वित्त मंत्री (प्रो० मधु दण्डवते): (क) रुपए की क्रय शक्ति का परिकलन, औद्योगिक श्रमिकों के लिए अखिल भारतीय उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक के व्युत्क्रम में किया जाता है। उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक में घटबढ़ के साथ इसमें विपरीत दिशा में परिवर्तन होता है। हाल ही के वर्षों में उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक में वृद्धि की प्रवृत्ति देखी गई है।

(ख) उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (1960–100) को 1980–81 आधार पर परिवर्तित करने के बाद रुपए की क्रय शक्ति के संबंध में अपेक्षित सूचना नीचे दी गई है:—

अवधि	रुपए का मूल्य (पैसों में)
दिसम्बर, 1988	49.02
दिसम्बर, 1989	46.51
जनवरी, 1990	46.73

(उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक के संबंध में अद्यतन आंकड़े जनवरी, 1990 के लिए उपलब्ध हैं)